

Message Text

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SUBJ: UNICEF INDOCHINA PROGRAM

REF: (A) USUN 1186, (B) USUN 1753, (C) USUN 861

1. AT UNICEF PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 21, MARTIN SANDBURG, CHIEF UNICEF INDOCHINA OPERATION, INTRODUCED INDOCHINA SUBJECT TO COMMITTEE. DUE TO LATENESS OF HOUR DISCUSSION THIS SUBJECT POSTPONED UNTIL MAY 22. REPORT ON DISCUSSION FOLLOWS.

2. FIRST PART SANDBURG'S SPEECH HIGHLIGHTED ASPECTS INFORMATION MEMO (DOCUMENT C/ICEF/L.1307), SUBSTANCE OF WHICH REPORTED TO DEPARTMENT BY REFTELS. MAIN POINTS MADE WERE AS FOLLOWS: (1) \$8 MILLION IS NEEDED FROM GENERAL RESOURCES FOR INDOCHINA PROGRAM; (2) A LARGER PART OF FINANCIAL NEEDS MUST COME FROM VOLUNTARY DONATIONS; (3) ONE LESSON LEARNED FROM INDOCHINA EXPERIENCE IS THAT IN CASES OF MASSIVE NEEDS ARISING FROM PROBLEMS SUCH AS FOUND IN INDOCHINA IS THAT THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR HAVING AN ADEQUATE FIELD STAFF ON THE GROUND, WORKING CLOSELY WITH THOSE WHO PLAN AND CARRY OUT PROGRAMS; (4) THE PROGRAM UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR EACH COUNTRY OR TERRITORY ON THE PENINSULA WAS DERIVED

FROM AN ASSESSMENT OF PRIORITIES, STATUS OF PLANNING, ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY AND THE EXTENT OF OTHER DONOR ASSISTANCE; (5) IN SOME CASES FINAL IDENTIFICATION DEPENDS ON FURTHER WORK -- IN LAOS, AS RESULT OPPORTUNITIES MADE POSSIBLE BY COALITION GOVERNMENT, AND PRG WHICH REQUIRES ON THE GROUND ANALYSIS.

3. SECOND PART OF SPEECH SUMMARIZED EVENTS SINCE THE PREPARATION OF INFORMATION MEMORANDUM, ARISING FROM THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED VISIT OF JACQUES BEAUMONT TO INDOCHINA (BEAUMONT IS DANDBURG'S DEPUTY). PRIMARY PURPOSE THIS VISIT WAS TO PROVIDE CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO DRVN IN CONNECTION WITH UNICEF SCHOOL PROGRAM THIS COUNTRY (TWO UNESCO ARCHITECTS ACCOMPANIED BEAUMONT). ALSO WHILE IN HANOI, DRVN AND UNICEF DEVELOPED A DAY-CARE CENTER PROGRAM COSTING APPROX. \$1 MILLION WHICH WILL BE SUBTRACTED FROM DOLLAR LEVELS ORIGINALLY ESTIMATED FOR SCHOOL PROGRAM.

4. WHILE IN HANOI BEAUMONT INVITED BY PRG TO VISIT DONG HA, IN SOUTH VIETNAM WHERE HE SAW PROVINCIAL LEVEL PRG OFFICIALS. IN DONG HA BEAUMONT VISITED HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS AND A RURAL DISPENSARY. FOLLOWING THIS VISIT A FURTHER REVIEW WITH PRG REPRESENTATIVE IN HANOI RESULTED IN SUGGESTION THAT PERHAPS UNICEF COULD BEST BE OF ASSISTANCE BY PROVIDING TEACHING KITS, HEALTH KITS AND CLOTH FOR CHILDREN'S CLOTHING. IT ALSO AGREED THAT FURTHER ELABORATION REMAINING PROGRAM FOR 1974/1975 WOULD BE MADE IN SERIES TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS TO BE ARRANGED THIS SUMMER. THIS WILL INVOLVE FURTHER VISITS TO THE AREAS CONCERNED. BECAUSE RECONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS TAKES A PROMINENT PLACE IN THE SCALE OF PRG PRIORITIES, IT IS LIKELY THAT THESE VISITS WILL REQUIRE CONSULTANCY SERVICES.

5. SANDBURG ALSO REPORTED THAT BEAUMONT WHILE IN HANOI TALKED WITH GRUNK REPRESENTATIVES. PURPOSE THESE DISCUSSIONS WAS TO SHED LIGHT ON NEEDS OF CHILDREN IN AREAS OF CAMBODIA WHICH CANNOT BE REACHED BY SERVICES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC, AND TO EXPLORE WAYS UNICEF MIGHT ASSIST THESE CHILDREN. GRUNK OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT THERE ARE MASSIVE NEEDS FOR THESE CHILDREN PARTICULARLY IN HEALTH UNCLASSIFIED

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CARE. OFFICIALS ALSO INDICATED THAT FOR THE MOMENT THERE ARE SERIOUS LOGISTICAL AND RELATED OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF FINDING A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO BRINGING INTO THE COUNTRY THE KIND OF ASSISTANCE THAT UNICEF COULD PROVIDE. IT WAS AGREED THAT THESE PROBLEMS WOULD BE PURSUED IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN THE PERIOD AHEAD.

6. FURTHER INFOR SUBJECTS DISCUSSED PARAS 4-5 WILL BE

SUBJECT OF SEPARATE MESSAGE AFTER OPPORTUNITY DE-BRIEF
BEAUMONT.
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